

**In the Claims**

[ Please amend the following claims:

1. A [pinless composite] masonry block comprising a front surface, a back surface, first and second sides, and [a top surface and a bottom surface] first and second opposing surfaces, said block comprising one or more protrusions positioned on said block [top surface] first or second surfaces, said protrusion comprising a side surface, wherein said protrusion side surface has an angle of at least about 20° from vertical, [said protrusion positioned on said block top or bottom surface so as to mate with an opening of and adjacent by positioned block.]

A2 2. The block of claim 1 wherein each of said block sides have an inset spanning from said block [top] first surface to said block [bottom] second surface and wherein a portion of said block [top] first surface comprises a protrusion which spans between said insets.

A3 4. The block of claim 1 wherein said block [from] front surface is substantially planar.

5. The block of claim 1 wherein said block front [surfaces] surface is faceted.

A4 7. The block of claim 2 wherein said protrusion extends along said block [top] first surface between said [first and second inset] insets.

A5 9. The block of claim 1 wherein said block has an open central portion extending from said [top] first surface to said [bottom] second surface.

10. The block of claim [1] 2 wherein said block comprises two protrusions.

11. The block of claim 10 wherein said protrusions are positioned on said block [top] first surface adjacent said [first and second inset] insets.

As 12. A [pinless composite] masonry block comprising a front surface and a back surface, [a top surface and bottom surface] first and second opposing surfaces, and first and second sides, said first side having a first inset wherein said first inset spans from said block [top] first surface to said block [bottom] second surface, said second side having a second inset, wherein said second inset spans from said block [top] first surface to said block [bottom] second surface, a protrusion on one of said block [top] first or [bottom] second surfaces, said protrusion comprising a side surface, said side surface has an angle of at least about 20° from vertical, and first and second anchoring legs, said first leg extending from said block first side and said second leg extending from said block second side.

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Ac 17. The block of claim 12 wherein said block has an open central portion extending from said [top] first surface to said [bottom] second surface.

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At 19. The block of claim 18 wherein said protrusions are positioned on said block [top] first surface adjacent said first and second inset.

20. A retaining wall structure, said retaining wall structure comprising one or more courses, each of said courses comprising one or more [pinless composite] masonry blocks, each of said blocks comprising a front surface and a back surface, [a top surface and bottom surface] first and second opposing surfaces, and first and second sides, said first side having a first inset wherein said first inset extends from said block [top] first surface to said block [bottom] second surface, said second side having a second inset, wherein said second inset extends from said block [top] first surface to said block [bottom] second surface, a protrusion on one of said block [top] first or [bottom] second surfaces, said protrusion comprising a side surface, said side surface has an angle of at least about 20° from vertical, wherein said block protrusion is configured to mate with the inset of one or more adjacently positioned block.

26. A structure comprising [the block of claim 1.] a plurality of masonry blocks, each said block including a front surface, a back surface, first and second sides, and first and second opposing surfaces, each said block further comprising one or more protrusions positioned on said block first or second surfaces, said protrusion comprising a side surface, wherein said protrusion side surface has an angle of at least about 20° from vertical.

27. A structure comprising [the block of claim 20.] a plurality of masonry blocks, each said block including a front surface and a back surface, first and second opposing surfaces, and first and second sides, said first side having a first inset wherein said first inset spans from said block first surface to said block second surface, said second side having a second inset, wherein said second inset spans from said block first surface to said block second surface, a protrusion on one of said block first or second surfaces, said protrusion comprising a side surface, said side surface has an angle of at least about 20° from vertical, and first and second anchoring legs, said first leg extending from said block first side and said second leg extending from said block second side.